

Bluff Vertigo

Vertigo meramecensis

Habitat Preference: Algific slopes and moderate cliffs. Moderate cliffs are essentially Algific slopes without a substantial talus. Generally, the dissected (eroded) fissure and sink system is small. Fissures do not extend more than 500 feet into the rock and surface feeder sinks are usually cryptic.

Threats:

- Human disturbance of slope habitat
 - Overgrazing can cause
 - Causes compaction of the vents which prevents the cold air flow the snails are dependent upon.
 - Directly crushes individuals.
 - Logging
 - Causes erosion
 - Causes compaction of the vents which prevents the cold air flow the snails are dependent upon.
 - Causes fragmentation that further isolates the populations
 - Creates a loss of shade which creates warmer and drier conditions.
 - Contributes to direct harm from falling or removing logs.
 - Road Construction
 - Quarrying
 - Foot traffic
 - Pesticides
- Human disturbance of sink holes that feed the slopes
 - Filling in of sink holes
- Invasion of non-native species; especially garlic mustard.

Appropriate Practices:

- Fencing to exclude grazing.
- Do not spray pesticides aerially within 100 yards of known habitat or ground spray within 20 yards of known habitat.
- Buffer sink holes to prevent them from filling with sediment.
- Limit human access to areas known to harbor Bluff Vertigo.